

# WOMEN ON STAGE

## *All Thrilled at First Appearance in State Convention*

[Louisville Times.]

A taxi stopped in front of the entrance at Phoenix Hill at 1:35 o'clock Tuesday afternoon and with the same ease and grace they would have shown if attending a social function instead of a political convention, Miss Laura Clay, Mrs. Harrison Gardner Foster, Mrs. Faust Foushee, Mrs. J. A. Edge, Mrs. William Dowell Oldham and Miss Katherine Christian, all of Lexington, alighted. Neither fear nor timidity was shown by these women as they made their first official entrance into a Kentucky Democratic State Convention.

Mrs. Foster lived for several years in Washington and was a delegate at the 1916 convention. "The present convention is characteristic and promising," she said. Mrs. Foster is a native Kentuckian and is the daughter of Col. Hart Gibson, well remembered by the old Jeffersonian Democrats.

"Of course we are thrilled," said Mrs. Cora Wilson Stewart, "this is the culmination of dream and we welcome our initial convention." Never did a delegate receive more applause than Mrs. Stewart as she rose to second the nomination of Major A. Scott Bullitt as temporary chairman. This was the first time a woman had ever spoken officially at a Kentucky State Democratic Convention.

The first woman to enter the convention hall as a delegate was Miss Mazie Pogue, Frances, Ky.

A dash of fun was served by William Thompson, better known as "Windy Bill," Taylorsville. He welcomed the ladies who sat upon the stage with, "I have been fighting for you tooth and toe nail for twelve years, and now you have won." Turning to Mrs. John Castleman, he said: "I knew your husband for a long time, he was a great man." Windy Bill could not praise Miss Clay too much. "She is one of the finest women in Kentucky," he declared.

When asked where he came from "Windy Bill" said: "Why, from all over the State. I am here one time and there another." He is a tobacco grower, living in Taylorsville, temporarily.

A handsome figure at the convention was Mrs. Shelby Harbison, the daughter of the late Col. Clinton McClarty, the first secretary of the first Democratic State Convention ever held in Kentucky. "I am a Democrat through and through," said Mrs. Harbison, "and I will work for the success of my party."

There was Mrs. A. M. Harrison, Lexington, daughter of the famous General Withers, who has been for suffrage ever since "Kentucky women were allowed to think for themselves."

Mrs. Samuel Wilson, Lexington, president of the Fayette County Democratic Club for Women, is a descendant of Isaac Shelby, the first Governor of Kentucky, and granddaughter of the late William Preston, Minister to Spain. Her father, Robert Thornton, was one of the most brilliant lawyers in the South.

A great many more women than men were seated upon the stage. Among these were Mrs. Clay, Miss Stewart, Miss Nancy Lewis Greene, Mrs. Donald McDonald, Mrs. Evelyn P. Ferguson, Mrs. Samuel Wilson, Mrs. George R. Hunt, Mrs. Clarence LeBus, Mrs. John B. Castleman, Miss Nannie Lee Frayser and Mrs. William H. Flannery, a member of the staff of the Ashland Daily Independent, who has been for years an ardent suffrage worker.

The women declared they were well pleased by the pleasure welcome extended them by the masculine element of the convention.